THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. So far, 355 Navodaya Vidyalayas have been sanctioned. Opening of new Navodaya Vidyalayas is limited by availability of funds and suitable proposals from the State Govts, inter-alia providing suitable land free of cost and temporary accommodation to run the Vidyalayas till the "Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti constructs its own buildings. The State Governments of Tamil Nadu and West Bengal have not yet accepted the scheme of Navodaya Vidyalayas. Also the Government of Assam had accepted the scheme only in 1992-93. Within these limitations, the Samiti has been trying to provide a Navodaya Vidyalaya to every district at the earliest

(d) The Government has approved the opening of one Navodaya Vidyalaya on an average in each of the districts in the country with a physical target of 50 per year during the first three years of the VIIIth Plan Period.

(e) Admission in Navodaya Vidyalayas takes place in Class VI on the basis of a Selection Test designed and conducted by the National Council of Educational Research and Training. The test is of non-verbal nature, classneutral. This admission criterian is being followed right from the inception of the scheme.

Implementation of Yashpal Committee Report

2517. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to implement the recommendations of the Yashpal Committee Report;

(b) if so. the view of State Governments in this regard;

(c) whether the Union Government has decided to fund State Governments to implement the recommendations; and

(d) if so, by when the recommendations are likely to be implemented in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) In the 50th meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Education held on 2.3.94, State Governments expressed their broad agreement with the recommendations of Yash Pal Committee. The consensus of such views was identified and the course of action to be adopted by the State Governments suggested to them. Implementation in the school system directly under the control of the Union Government will be ensured by the Central Organisations. Since most of the schools of the country are under the control of the State Governments, the major part of implementation of the recommendations rests with the State Governments.

(c) and (d). Implementation of the recommendtions by the State Governments is a part of their on-going programme of development of school education.

Trust for Roerichs paintings and art collections

2518. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to set up an International Trust to take care of Roerichs' paintings and art collections;

(b) whether die feasibility of setting up such a trust was discussed during Prime Minister's recent visit to Moscow; and

(c) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that some of the valuable properties of the Roerichs were stolen and have been recovered in Bangalore?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI SELJA): (a) An International Roerich Memorial Trust at Naggar, Kullu, has already been set up in April, 93. The Government of Kamataka has proposed to set up another Trust at Bangalore.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.